Utilisationof fire-engine at Kunnamkulam for watering roads.

96. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform—

(a) whetherthe fire-engine stationed at Kunnamkulam can also be made use of for watering the roads in the summer ; and if not

(b) whetherit can be adjusted to do this also when it is not required to extinguish fire ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) Yes ; but the engine is primarily intended for fire-fighting purposes and it is not advisable to use it for watering the roads as it is likely to cause a primature breakdown of the costly engine. Besides, additional staff with better pay would be necessary if the engine is to be used daily.

(b) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to (a).

Enhancement of penalty for straying cattle.

97. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Diwan has received a petition dated 25th December 1933 from the cultivators and agriculturists of the villages of Pazhanji, Kattakampal, Mangad, etc. ;

(b) what is the prayer in the petition referred to above ;

(c) what action has been taken by the Government in the matter ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) The petitioners pray for increasing the penalty for straying cattle to Rs. 2 and to secure to the cultivating tenants a summary remedy for damages done to them by the straying cattle.

(c) The petition is under enquiry.

Police officers and service buses.

98. **Mr. P. Krishna Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) are the police officers authorised to board service buses even if they are fully loaded ;

(b) are the Government aware that such a practice exists in many places in the State ;

(c) is it the intention of Government to encourage such a practice ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) No.

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